Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organizations/Self Help Groups for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi Service Centres for Older Persons.

Revision of OBC List

2556. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have revised the Central OBC list for the States of Karnataka, U.P., Rajasthan and West Bengal with a large number of additions and alterations;

(b) if so, the number and the details of additions and alterations; and

(c) what criteria have been adopted for such additions and alterations indicating the percentage of persons living below poverty line amongst these castes in each of the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b)The Central list of Other Backward Classes for the States of Karnataka and U.P., was first notified on 13-9-1993 and for Rajasthan and West Bengal, on 20-10-1994. Subsequently, the Central list of Other Backward Classes in respect of these States have been modified vide Gazette of India Notifications No. 60 dated 11-3-1996, No. 210 dated 11-12-1996, No. 239 dated 17-12-1997, No. 241 dated 27-10-1999 and No. 270 dated 6-12-1999.

(c) As per provisions under the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993, the National Commission for Backward Classes has been set up. The Commission examines the requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as backward class in the Central List of OBC and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in the list and tenders such advice to Central Government, as it deems appropriate.

The Commission has formulated guidelines for consideration of requests which include criteria covering social, educational and economic aspects of backwardness.